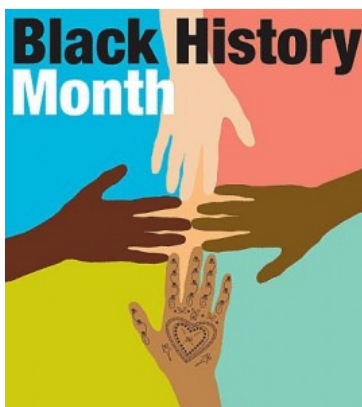


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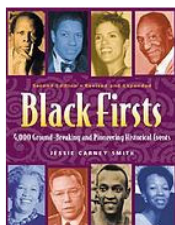
[Celebrate Black History Month: Check Out These Materials!](#)

January 31st, 2010 by wmmiller

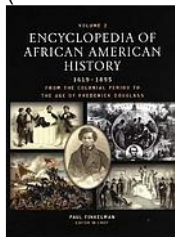


February is Black History Month: the time we commemorate important events and members of the African Diaspora and the significant effects that they have had on our society. The library has tons of resources on black history, whether you are interested in trivia, general information, or more substantial research.

Our print materials include:

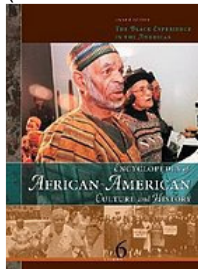


**Black Firsts: 4,000 Ground Breaking and Pioneering Historical Events, 2nd edition (2003)** by Jessie Carney Smith: This record of black achievement highlights black firsts in chronological order in specialized sections designated by field or profession (Arts & Entertainment, Business, Journalism, Educations, Writers, Sports, Government, and more). (This item is available in the [Reference Reading Room](#); [LC Call Number](#): E 185 .B574 2003)



**Encyclopedia of African American History 1619-1895: From the Colonial Period to the Age of Frederick Douglass (2006)**, Paul Finkelman, Editor in Chief: In three volumes, the reader is provided with windows into the internal history of black peoples and communities from the arrival of the first slave ship and the external relationship with whites that informs the larger American history until the death of Frederick Douglass.

(This item is available in the [Reference Reading Room](#); [LC Call Number](#): E 185 .E545 2006)



**Encyclopedia of African-American Culture and History: The Black Experience in the Americas, 2nd edition (2006)**, edited by Colin A. Palmer: With articles on topics ranging from the West Indies Federation to Venus and Serena Williams, this six volume set takes a look at the progression of black history and culture and recent figures and events in North America and abroad.

(This item is available in the [Undergraduate Services Reference Collection](#) and the [Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center Library](#); [LC Call Number](#): E 185 .E54 2006)

We also offer access to online resources:

[America: History & Life](#) covers the history of the United States and Canada from pre-history to the present.

#### Polls

How many books had you checked out of the IU Libraries in 2008?

- ☐ 0  
☐ 1-10  
☐ 10-50  
☐ 50-100  
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[Black Culture and Thought](#) makes available a collection of non-fiction published works of African American leaders, including interviews, journal articles, speeches, essays, pamphlets, letters, etc.

[Black Short Fiction and Folklore](#) covers offer more than 8,000 short stories and folktales, ranging thematically from oral traditions that date back many hundreds of years to contemporary tales of modern life by writers from the African Diaspora.

These resources provide a range of information on this growing field of research and inquiry. Dig in!

Filed under: [Finding articles](#), [Primary sources](#), [Reference Books](#), [Uncategorized](#), [research](#), [resources](#) [Comment \(0\)](#)

Article tags: [African Diaspora](#), [African-American](#), [Black](#), [history](#), [reference](#)

[Groundhog Day!](#)

January 31st, 2010 by crywhite

February 2nd is Groundhog Day for those of you that do not know.

I know what you are thinking, "Who cares?" Well, apparently many people do. Many people and cities in the United States and Canada will be celebrating Groundhog Day on Tuesday. According to the legend, if the groundhog emerges and does not see his shadow, winter will soon end. However, if he sees his shadow, winter will last for another six weeks. Groundhog Day is a Pennsylvania German tradition that includes festivals and a day long celebration.

Many places will be celebrating Groundhog Day on Tuesday. Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania (where crowds as high as 40,000 and have gathered to celebrate the holiday since at least 1886) is the largest and has the most famous Groundhog: Punxsutawney Phil. Other celebrations in Pennsylvania take place in Quarryville in Lancaster County, the Anthracite Region of Schuylkill County, the Sinnamahoning Valley and Bucks County. Outside of Pennsylvania, notable celebrations occur in the Frederick and Hagerstown areas of Maryland, the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, Woodstock, Illinois, and among the Amish populations of over twenty states and Canada. The University of Dallas in Irving, Texas has taken Groundhog Day as its official university holiday and organizes a large-scale celebration every year in honor of the Groundhog.

Although I will not be going to any of these places to celebrate Groundhog Day, I will be celebrating it in my own way. I grew up with Groundhog Day and hearing about the celebrations. Every year, I always find out the predictions. I also watch the movie, Groundhog Day starring Bill Murray, every year since I discovered it. Bill Murray is a news reporter and goes to Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania to report on the events for Groundhogs Day. However, something happens and he keeps reliving the day over and over again. It is a fun movie where you get to see some of the celebrating.

Groundhog Day is an interesting tradition, and who knows, maybe you will find yourself in one of the places that celebrates it one day.

For those of you that want to learn more, there are many sources you can look at to help you understand the tradition. Here are a few to get you started:

<http://www.groundhog.org/>

<http://www.stormfax.com/ghogday.htm>

[http://pittsburgh.about.com/od/famous\\_groundhogs/Famous\\_Groundhogs\\_Around\\_the\\_World.htm](http://pittsburgh.about.com/od/famous_groundhogs/Famous_Groundhogs_Around_the_World.htm)

<http://www.woodstockgroundhog.org/>

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?gl=CA&hl=en&v=\\_TXf0bC3sZ8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?gl=CA&hl=en&v=_TXf0bC3sZ8)

<http://www.southbrucepeninsula.com/en/wiartonwillie/welcome.asp>

[http://www.dmoz.org/Society/Holidays/Groundhog\\_Day//](http://www.dmoz.org/Society/Holidays/Groundhog_Day//)

Wells Library also has a few books:

Groundhog Day by Don Yoder

Call number: GT4995.G76 Y63 2003

Location: Folklore collection of the East Tower

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Groundhog Day by Ryan Gilbey

Book about the film.

Call Number: PN1997.G76 G55 2004

Location: Research collection stacks (East Tower)

We also have the movie called, Groundhog Day, in Media and Reserve Services.

–Crystal

Filed under: [event](#), [resources](#) [Comment \(0\)](#) Article tags: [bill murray](#), [february](#), [february 2](#), [Groundhog Day](#), [holidays](#), [movie](#), [tradition](#)

[Haiti](#)

January 25th, 2010 by anberste

On January 12, 2010, a massive earthquake struck the nation of Haiti, causing catastrophic damage inside and around the capital city of Port-au-Prince. With so much media coverage of the earthquake it may seem hard to find accurate information. Here are some helpful resources you can access:

[IU has created a webpage](#) to guide the public through the Haitian relief efforts going on at the Bloomington campus.

For putting events into context and for researching background, we recommend the following sources.

[The Geosciences Library](#) has a link on their site to datasets and maps related to the earthquake

[The 12 Jan. 2010 Haiti Earthquake and the Enriquillo-Plaintain Fault](#). In response to the recent, tragic earthquake that struck southern Haiti, the Geological Society of America has provided open access (free) papers that address the Caribbean plate and the Enriquillo-Plaintain fault line.

[A Country Study: Haiti](#). Library of Congress Country Studies Series presents a description and analysis of the historical setting and the social, economic, political, and national security systems and institutions of countries throughout the world.

You can help the victims of the earthquake by making a monetary donation:

Instructor of Haitian Creole, David Tezil, particularly recommends the International Firefighter Association, at [www.ifarelief.org](http://www.ifarelief.org)

You can automatically donate \$5 to the Yele Haiti Earthquake Fund by texting “Yele” to 501501. You can also visit their website at <http://www.yele.org/>

The American Red Cross has created a Haiti Relief and Development fund. Donations can be made at <https://american.redcross.org>

You can search [IUCAT](#) for more information about Haiti as well.

Filed under: [Primary sources](#), [event](#), [research](#), [websites](#) [Comment \(0\)](#)

[The Oyez Project](#)

January 18th, 2010 by caibagle

Oyez! Oyez! Oyez!

Do you know what that means? Well unless you’re a legal junkie, you’ve probably never heard it before. That’s ok. It’s a traditional interjection said at the opening of a court of law. It essentially means, “Hear ye! Hear ye! Hear ye!”

So what’s that got to do with you? Well are you curious to know all the latest information on what the Supreme Court is doing? Maybe you’ve just got a really burning need to know who the first Head of the Supreme Court was. Well good news! You don’t have to go running to your friends in law school or even to Wikipedia, just go over to The Oyez Project. <http://www.oyez.org>

This amazing multimedia archive has access to information about every case that has been presented to the Supreme Court since its inception. This free website allows you to listen in to the oral arguments presented to the justices and then hear the opinion announcements and verdicts from the justices. Audio can be streamed or it can be downloaded as an MP3 so that you can listen to it at your convenience. Each case heard by the Supreme Court has the facts of the case laid out in unbiased terms with the questions and conclusions, stating the final vote count, etc. Naturally, some of the more high profile cases have more information on them, but all cases receive fair treatment.

So what are you waiting for? Classes have started, and you know you need an idea for that big paper due soon. Why not drop on by the Oyez Project for a few ideas. You'll find all sorts of interesting things to intrigue you, and all the resources to back it up, all in one site!

Filed under: [Explore a Database](#), [research](#), [resources](#), [websites](#) [Comment \(0\)](#) Article tags: [Oyez](#), [Supreme Court](#) [Welcome \(Back\)!](#)

January 10th, 2010 by libref

From the IU Libraries, we'd like to welcome you (back) to Bloomington! For many, a new year and new semester offers exciting possibilities to answer questions and to explore the unknown. The libraries are one place where that may happen. As you start off the semester, here are a few resources that may help you navigate the town and the term.

Navigate Bloomington

[Bloomington Transit Routes & Schedule](#)

[Campus Bus Schedule](#)

Navigate IU

[Quick Guide to IU Information](#)

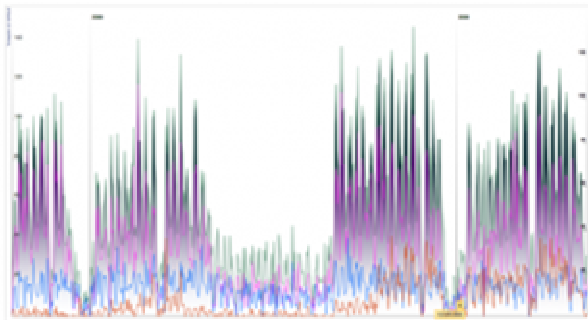
Wishing you a wonderful semester from the IU Libraries!

rs

Filed under: [research](#), [resources](#), [websites](#) [Comment \(0\)](#)

[What really goes on at the Reference Desk?](#)

December 16th, 2009 by dcb



Have you ever wondered what sort of questions are asked at the Reference Desk? Or how many questions the Reference staff answers on, say, a Tuesday in October?

Even if you haven't, now you can click on one of the pictures above or below and start exploring the Reference Department's reference data on your own.

All the data on these pages comes from entries recorded in the Reference Portal, which is an open source software application that Indiana University librarians use to record the type (In-person, IM, or Phone) and content of the questions they're asked. Librarians record this information in a pop-up window via their computers, and the portal records and stores these entries for future consultation.

This semester, as part of my E. Lingle Craig fellowship, I used SIMILE Javascript APIs to develop a site that lets users visualize and interact with the data IU librarians record every day.

Click on the site here to start examining the data yourself:

<http://ella.slis.indiana.edu/~dcbecker/refportal/main.html>

The SIMILE Timeplots enable you to look at the number and type of questions asked from 2007-2009, and the SIMILE Timeline will let you scroll, filter, highlight, and read the actual questions recorded in the portal. Currently, the data consists of entries from October 15, 2007-May 12, 2009; the data will be updated shortly to reflect entries recorded during the rest of 2009 as well.



Note: These visualizations work best in Firefox, Safari, etc.; they have, unfortunately, been known to not appear in some versions of Internet Explorer.

If you have any comments, questions, or concerns, please let me know at [dcbecker \[at\] uemail.iu.edu](mailto:dcbecker[at]uemail.iu.edu).

Filed under: [Uncategorized](#) [Comment \(0\)](#) Article tags: [craig](#), [reference](#), [simile](#), [timeline](#), [timeplot](#)

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